

USSN 10/626,488
Amendment dated November 3, 2005
Reply to Office Action of July 12, 2005

PATENT
Attorney Docket 713-54-PA

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed July 12, 2005. A Request for a One-Month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) is submitted herewith, along with the fee prescribed by 37 CFR 1.17(a)(1). The response is therefore timely. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3-18 were examined. Claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 11-13, and 16 were rejected. Claims 5-7, 9, 10, 14, 15, 17, and 18 were objected to as depending from a rejected claim, but were held to define allowable subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended by incorporating the allowable subject matter of claim 5, which has been canceled as redundant. Claims 6 and 7 have been amended to depend from amended claim 1. Claims 3, 4, and 8, 11, and 12 depend from amended claim 1, and should therefore be allowed along with claim 1. Claims 9 and 10 have been amended to be independent claims, and should therefore be allowable. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 3, 4, and 6-12, as amended, are allowable over the art of record.

Claim 13 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 14, and is thus an independent claim that defines patentably over the art of record. Claim 14 has been canceled as redundant. Claims 15 and 16 now depend from claim 13, as amended, and should be allowed along with it. Claims 17 and 18 have been amended to be independent claims, and should therefore be allowable. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 13 and 15-18 define patentably over the cited art.

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In summary, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims, namely, claims 1, 3, 4, 6-13, and 15-18, as amended, define patentably over the art of record, and should therefore be allowed. Passage of the application to issue is therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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